

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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report which gives information on the following: (1) Change in divisional commanders for the Halle Division, and (2) Strength, equipment, ammunition, fuel supplies, and training at the Heide Kaserne.

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EAST GERMANYMILITARYSOVIET AND EAST GERMAN MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN HALLE AREA(First half Oct 57)1. PERSONNEL

- (a) General BUDENKOV handed over command of the HALLE Division to the new Divisional Commander (name not yet known) on 7 - 8 Oct 1957. Ceremonial parades for the new Commander were held in the HEIDEKASERNE (BS 8201), WORMLITZERKASERNE (BS 8203) and the Engineer Camp on the SAALE.
- (b) BUDENKOV continues to occupy his own quarters within the HEIDEKASERNE.
- (c) The new Commander, who is a Colonel, has taken over the "Kommandeurvilla" just outside the barracks, where Major ABRANOV is also quartered.
- (d) The new Commander is an artillery officer, who was senior artillery officer in the HALLE Division until about two years ago, when he was posted to USSR.
- (e) BUDENKOV is a Tank officer who commanded an AFV formation during the war. ABRANOV is also a Tank officer.
- (f) In the enclosure in the HEIDEKASERNE for the recently arrived modern weapons there are about 200 officers and 300 NCOs, and no private soldiers.
- (g) In the rest of the HEIDEKASERNE strengths at 10 Oct were approximately as follows:
 - 1000 Infantry
 - 1200 Tank and SP guntroops (including maintenance and repair personnel).
 - 250 Signals troops
 - 120 AA troops
 - 300 MT Personnel
 - 100 Engineers employed in the Engineer repair shops and sawmill.
- (h) About 80 officers and 40 NCOs occupy quarters in BUDENKOV's staff building in the HEIDEKASERNE, and in the new Divisional Commander's staff building about 100 officers and 60 NCOs, including A and Q staff, are quartered. None of these are included in the totals in (f) and (g) above.
- (i) A total of about 450 additional engineerstroops arrived at the Engineer Camp on the SAALE (see "EQUIPMENT" Below) on 3, 5 and 7 Oct.
- (j) EGA - 5 Oct 57
 - 3 x JS-3 tanks with EGA crews drove from the HEIDEKASERNE into the EGA barracks in HALLE.

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2. EQUIPMENT(a) HEIDKASERNE HOLDINGS ON 10 OCT 57

(i) In the new modern weapons enclosure:

- 9 x "Atom guns" each mounted on 2 x 3-axled low loaders viz. barrel on one low loader, breech assembly on second low loader.
- 9 x Heavy rocket launchers each mounted on a 3-axled low loader.
- 9 x Medium rocket launchers each mounted on a 3-axled low loader.
- 3 x Rocket launchers each mounted on a 2-axled trailer (4 rear wheels)
- 3 x Remote controlled JS-3 tanks.
- 6 x Remote controlled T.54 tanks.
- 9 x T.54 tank chassis with radar-like superstructure.

(ii) Elsewhere in the barracks:

- 27 x JS-3 tanks.
- 54 x T.54 tanks.
- 10 x JSU-152.
- 10 x JSU-152 with guns, calibre approximately 170 mm.
- 10 x JSU-152 with guns, calibre approximately 200 mm.
- 30 x JSU-122A.
- 6 x T.54 chassis without turrets.
- 3 x JS-3 chassis without turrets.
- 6 x AA guns, double wheels, calibre about 100 mm.
- 27 x low loaders, 4-axled.
- 30 x wheeled prime movers.
- 10 x tracked prime movers.
- 9 x Amphibious tanks.
- 10 x Infantry assault boats.
- 10 x 6 x 6 wheeled Amphibians.
- 10 x tracked Amphibians.

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- 12 x 3-axled howsers.
- 9 x 3-axled W/T trucks.
- 12 x 2-axled W/T trucks.

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- 9 x 3-axled trailers for use as mobile tank repair detachment.
- 6 x 3-axled trailers for use as mobile artillery repair detachment.
- 7 x 3-axled cranes.

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(b) ENGINEER CAMP ON THE SAALE RIVER

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New arrivals on 3, 5 and 7 Oct 57 (station of origin unknown) consisted of:

3 x 3-axled [] cranes.

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2 x 3-axled W/T trucks.

1 x 2-axled W/T trucks.

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[] trailers. [] each trailer carried 2 large and 2 smaller pontoons.

[] pontoons.

[] trailers carrying timber baulks and boards.

4 x T.54 chassis without turrets.

[] motorboat with 3-bladed propellers.

3 x 3-axled bowzers.

[] about 450 engineer troops.

All these were additional to equipment already in the camp.

(c) AMMUNITION - HEIDEKASERNE

9 Oct 57

- (i) 6 large and 6 smaller rocket-like missiles were off-loaded and taken to the ammunition depot in the new weapons enclosure.

10 Oct 57

- (ii) [] small arms ammunition.

[] AFV ammunition.

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- (iii) The ammunition stores appear to be full, as cases covered with tarpaulins are stacked outside the doors.

- (iv) It is locally rumoured that the HEIDEKASERNE has a reserve ammunition depot near PASSENDORF.

(d) POL - HEIDEKASERNE

30 Sep - 5 Oct 57

6 x 3-axled bowzers arrived daily from the direction of MERSEBURG with POL. The fuel was delivered to the POL stores in the barracks, and all reserve drums as well as fixed tanks were filled.

3. TRAINING

Further training in loading and transporting AFVs on 4-axled low loaders has taken place.

Loading of 2 x T.54s on to one low loader takes about 25 minutes, the power take-off winch of the prime mover being used to haul the vehicles aboard from the rear end.

Driving practice with the two AFVs loaded has been confined to the runway and taxiway of the old airfield adjoining the HEIDEKASERNE.

The speed of the loaded low loader (viz. 2 x T.54s aboard) was estimated at 30 -

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